



## Philatelic Society of Australia Commemorative Meetings 2011



### **The Philatelic Society of Australia - Report for 20 April 2011 display by John Pugsley**

The fourth meeting of the Society's centenary year took place at Philas House on 20 April 2011 with 18 members and 3 visitors in attendance. The guest presenter was John Pugsley who over the past two years has won many awards for his Boer War displays including a large vermeil medal at London 2010.

The display presented by John featured covers, postal cards and picture post cards from the second Anglo-Boer War of 1899 to 1902. The seven frames of material presented was a selection of items collected by John since 1983 and included some not previously displayed.

John introduced the display with a detailed account of the Boer War including its causes, the military conflicts, the fate of the Boer prisoners of war and the aftermath.

The Philatelic material included significant cover markings featuring normal and special date cancellations, censorship labels, cover notations and destination addresses. Such covers carried a variety of postage stamps from the British colonies of Natal and the Cape of Good Hope and the Boer territories of Orange River colony and the Transvaal. Among the many stamps in use during this period were colonial issues featuring Queen Victoria and King Edward VII (1891-1902), Republic issues (1896-1900) and British Occupation issues (1900-1902). Added to these were a sprinkling of Transvaal locals and republic VRI overprints.

Items of interest were stamps of the Cape of Good Hope overprinted: "Mafeking besieged" and a one penny Sargent Major Goodyear.

Of the cancellations, that of the Ladysmith siege post office caught the eye.

The correspondence on display included mail of the British military, colonial contingents, Medical organisations, Prisoner of War camps, (Portugal, Saint Helena, Ceylon, India, and Bermuda) and Refugee camps. Each page of display was concisely annotated with items of greatest interest highlighted.

Wison Ilbery in his vote of thanks praised the high standard of the display and of John's oral and written presentations. The quality of the material presented and the enthusiasm generated by John during his oral presentation guaranteed many questions from members and visitors alike.

### **Aspects of the Boer war 1899 – 1902 by John Pugsley**

The second Anglo-Boer War (11/10/1899 to 30/5/1902) was fought between the forces of the Boer republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State against the forces of Britain and members of the British Empire.

Material has been gradually collected since 1983. The display features the major aspects of the conflict, and has been constantly updated with better material since it was first exhibited (at Newcastle in 2003).

Awards include Large Gold at Adelaide 2006 and Melbourne 2009; Gold at Bangkok 2007 and Hong Kong 2009; with Large Vermeil at Prague 2008 and London 2010.

John is a member of the 'Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society' (since 1986); the 'Philatelic Society of NSW' (since 2007); and 'Newcastle Philatelic Society' (since 2003).

Other collecting interests include mostly GB – essentially postal history of QV period; and minor interest in British India, Tasmania, Queensland, and Egypt.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (except December)  
10.30am at Philas House 17 Brisbane Street, Darlinghurst.

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